

The Director

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

Executive Registry
77-2597/A

3 NOV 1977

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Congress

Honorable Richardson Preyer, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Government Information  
and Individual Rights  
Committee on Government Operations  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

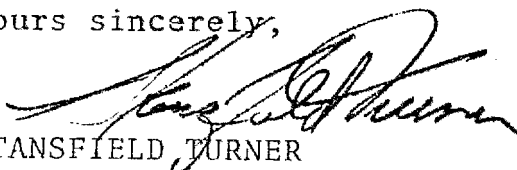
Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in regard to your letter of 6 October 1977 requesting information concerning the Agency's policy and regulations with respect to the conduct of investigations in view of the decision of the court in Weissman v. CIA.

This matter has been under review by the Office of General Counsel in conjunction with the Department of Justice. Our response to your questions will reflect the results of this review which should very soon be completed.

I fully appreciate and share your concern that the conduct of investigations of U.S. citizens by the CIA be in accordance with the law and applicable Executive Orders.

Yours sincerely,

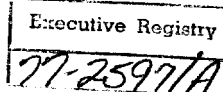
  
STANSFIELD TURNER

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

Congress)



Washington, D.C. 20505



3 NOV 1977  
OLC 77-4505/a

Honorable Richardson Preyer, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Government Information  
and Individual Rights  
Committee on Government Operations  
House of Representatives  
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Yours sincerely,

/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee  
1 - DCI  
1 - A/DDCI  
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OLC:PLC:kjs (26 Oct 77)  
(Retyped 28 Oct 77)

# EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks:

Executive Secretary

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Routing Slip

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
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9	GC				
10	LC	✓			
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12	Compt				
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17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPS				
19	DCI/SS				
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SUSPENSE		26 OCT 77 Date			

Remarks:

10: Develop DCI response

D/ Executive Secretary  
10/18/77  
Date

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EXHIBITIVE REGISTER

Congress

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NINETY-FIFTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

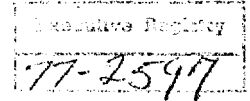
GOVERNMENT INFORMATION AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS  
SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM B-349-B-C  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

October 6, 1977



Admiral Stansfield Turner  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

In February of this year, the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in a case arising under the Freedom of Information Act, Weissman v. CIA, stated in dicta that the CIA did not have legal authority to conduct investigations of persons within the United States without their consent or knowledge on the grounds that such persons may be considered for employment by the Agency at some later date. Indeed, the Agency appeared to have compiled some 50 documents in the course of investigating the plaintiff in the Weissman case from 1958 to 1963.

I write now to ask what the Agency's current policy is with respect to the conduct of such investigations. I have posed a number of questions in this regard which I have enclosed as an attachment to this letter. I would very much appreciate your prompt response to them.

Sincerely,

Richardson Preyer  
Chairman

Attachment

QUESTIONS

1. Does the CIA currently conduct investigations of unaffiliated U.S. citizens without their consent or knowledge on the grounds that they may be considered for employment, or as an intelligence source, at some future date? If so,
  - a. Describe the circumstances which would justify such investigations.
  - b. Provide the number of persons who are annually subject to such investigations.
  - c. Provide a copy of the Agency regulation(s) which authorize or govern this practice.
2. Please set forth the Agency's position with respect to the legality of such practices after the Weissman decision.
3. If there are current Agency regulations which prohibit such practices, please furnish a copy to the subcommittee.
4. If such investigations are no longer undertaken, at what point did the Agency end such practice? For what period of time were such investigations conducted by the Agency?
5. Please indicate, or provide an estimate of the total number of persons who were subjects of such investigations in the past; and, a further breakdown, if available, of the number of investigations conducted a) where no future employment of, or b) no future use as an intelligence source or contact with the individual, was forthcoming.
6. If the Agency believes the collection of such information is illegal, what has been the disposition of records of earlier such investigations now considered improper?

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